Special Concessions to Indian Textiles Exporters

†750. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Commission has refused to extend special concessions to the Indian textile exporters till India rationalizes its import duty and releases its notification in accordance with the World Trade Organisation laws; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and European Commission (EC) in 1994. As per clause 2 of the MoU, India has notified the bindings of tariffs against products mentioned in the MoU. A system of "exceptional flexibilites" has been provided under Clause 6 of MoU. However, the European Commission is yet to grant exceptional flexibilities as per clause 6 of the MoU as the bindings are under examination by the EU.

Textile Parks

751. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether textile parks across the country are coming up;

(b) if so, the locations thereof and the contributions of Government therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of the small scale textile units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some State Governments like Andhra Pradesh and Kerala have set up apparel parks. The benefit of support extended under Export Promotion Industrial Park and Critical Infrastructure Balancing Schemes is available to all units, including garments/textile units set up in the designated Parks.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.